

United States Patent and Trademark Office



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.usplo.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/772,918	02/04/2004	Gilles Robert	015258-062300US	5221	
	7590 06/14/200 AND TOWNSEND AN		EXAM	EXAMINER	
TWO EMBAR	TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER			CANTELMO, GREGG	
EIGHTH FLOO SAN FRANCIS	or SCO, CA 94111-3834	ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER		PAPER NUMBER	
	,		1745		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
			06/14/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

		Application No.	Applicant(s)		
Office Action Summary		10/772,918	ROBERT, GILLES		
		Examiner	Art Unit		
	·	Gregg Cantelmo	1745		
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address					
Period fo	• •				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).					
Status					
1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>08 March 2007</u> .				
′=	This action is FINAL . 2b)⊠ This action is non-final.				
3)	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is				
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.					
Disposition of Claims					
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-8 and 10-12</u> is/are pending in the application.					
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.					
·	Claim(s) <u>1-8,10 and 11</u> is/are allowed.		•		
-	Claim(s) <u>12</u> is/are rejected.	•			
·	Claim(s) is/are objected to. Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or	r election requirement			
- ا	are subject to restriction and subject to	olocilon roquilomoni.			
Applicat	ion Papers				
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.					
10)⊠	The drawing(s) filed on <u>04 February 2004</u> is/are		·		
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).					
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.					
11)	The dath of declaration is objected to by the Ex	ammer. Note the attached Office	Action of form PTO-152.		
Priority (under 35 U.S.C. § 119				
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of:					
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.					
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).					
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.					
Attachment(s)					
_	nt(s) be of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)		
2) Notic	ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da	ate		
	mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) er No(s)/Mail Date	5) Notice of Informal P 6) Other:	atent Application		

Application/Control Number: 10/772,918 Page 2

Art Unit: 1745

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

- 1. In response to the amendment received March 8, 2007:
 - a. Claims 1-8 and 10-12 are pending;
 - b. The drawing objection has been withdrawn in light of Applicant's remarks;
 - c. The specification objections have been withdrawn in light of the amendment;
 - d. The claim objections have been overcome in light of the amendment;
 - e. The 101 rejection has been overcome in light of the cancellation of claim

9;

f. The 112 second paragraph rejections have been overcome in light of the amendment.

Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

3. The drawings received February 2, 2004 are acceptable for examination purposes.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Art Unit: 1745

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as based on a disclosure which is not enabling. The types of electronic devices which were appreciated as being a "gadget" critical or essential to the practice of the invention, but not included in the claim(s) is not enabled by the disclosure. See *In re Mayhew*, 527 F.2d 1229, 188 USPQ 356 (CCPA 1976). Claim 12 is to the combination of a fuel cell and electronic device comprising the fuel cell power source. While the specification recites the term "electronic gadget" it fails to define what devices were appreciated by applicant as being the claimed "electronic gadget". Thus the claimed invention fails to reasonably describe the term and since the invention relates to the combination it is held that each of the particulars of the fuel cell system <u>as well as the electronic gadget</u> be reasonably described, the claimed and disclosed invention of claim 12 lacks essential enabling disclosure.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 5. Claims 1-8 and 10-11 are allowed.
- 6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record appear to reasonably teach, suggest or render obvious the invention of claims 1-8 and 10-11.

Doshi discloses a SOFC (abstract and Figs. 1-4) comprising: a multi-modular unit formed with fuel cells 102 occupying an inherent volume; a channel system including first channels disposed in each fuel cell for providing fuel to the anode and air to the cathode and a second kind of channels 106 by which unused fuel is combusted, i.e. an afterburning stage (see paragraph 26), a heat insulating casing 110 (Figs and

Application/Control Number: 10/772,918 Page 4

Art Unit: 1745

paragraph 23); a heat exchanger which is connected to and thus part of the channel system for heating the air (paragraph 29) along with an apparatus 124 for feeding the air to the stack. A pressurized and refillable fuel reservoir 122 is also provided which inherently has a greater pressure than the ambient pressure surrounding the stack and reservoir. Control vales and a control are provided in the fuel system for controlling the reactant flow in the system. The fuel cell further includes various known solid electrolytes.

Doshi does not reasonably teach, suggest or render obvious the electrolyte as defined in claims 1-8 and 10-11 wherein the fuel cells respectively contain a disc-shaped solid electrolyte, which in addition to ion conducting components also includes electron conducting components which cause an ohmic loss and wherein the ratio of the ion conducting components to the electron conducting components is so designed that in an idling operation the power source a heat flow from the cells to the an environment can be compensated by the ohmic loss.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Page 5

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregg Cantelmo whose telephone number is 571-272-1283. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pat Ryan can be reached on 571-272-1292. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Application/Control Number: 10/772,918

Art Unit: 1745

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

gc

June 11, 2007

Gregg Cantelmo Primary Examiner Art Unit 1745 Page 6